

# BOSTON RECORDER.

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## MISSIONS IN AFRICA.

From the London Evangelical Magazine.

### LATAKKOO.

OF THE MISSIONARIES, AND

OF THE CITY.

From Letters written by

to her brother in London.

Misses left Griqua Town,

and had a pleasant journey

One of their people shot a

the road. Its fore legs

The flesh was well tasted.

Learning that Mateebe

all his men, were going on

expedition against a northern

endeavored, but in vain, to

the went, leaving the queen

the care of the missionaries.

the management of the battle, many

people forsook him, and fled

the town. The enemy then

great fury, and obliged Ma-

attered army to fly for their

the enemy, many leaped

rocks, and were dashed in

lost more than 200 men.

he wounded his feet, which

missionaries dresses every day.

greatly affected the king's

he deeply regrets that he had

the advice of the missionaries:

figure, he says, he will go no

expeditions, but listen to

He proposes to remove, with

the missionaries, to the

as soon as the harvest

very indifferent) is got in, and

will.

letter, dated at Krooman's

we learn that the missiona-

from Latakoo on the 4th of

arrived at the river on the 8th.

seems to be well situated for

settlement. One of them

plain is as large as the city of

surrounded by tall trees, which

delightful shade in the summer,

very pleasing appearance; it

gentleman's park. They were

by the king, his uncle, and

chiefs, who went with them,

determine on the spot where

should be built. The king

return to Latakoo, and call a

meeting of the chiefs, to see who

and who are against him; for

them are extremely averse both

and his entertainment of

the king, however, ap-

determined: he complains

one of his captains, who, he says,

in the field, and left him when

back and wounded to be eaten by

but the missionaries visited

his wounds, therefore he

them his best friends.

says they are extremely annoyed

the natives, who con-

into their tents to see them,

is almost insupportable;

it as far worse than that of

new Fair. 'I hope,' she says to

'you will not forget us at the

place. We need great grace,

great patience, to live among

the heathen, but you can form no

such a heathen town as this is,

we see it.'

intends to build a water-

for which purpose

search of stones for mill-stones.

and by our united efforts

He has now formed that, and

When he had made the

the people cried out, 'Now

is with these men, for we could

make a hole through such a stone.'

enquired whether the clothes

grew in the sea, as she had never

hears having such skins: they

that such articles can be made.

of our wagon appears to be

the greatest wonder of all; they will

that any man made it; they

be a god.

strangers from a distance made

curious about what they saw, and

the king, 'You are highly fa-

vorable a god come and live among

us.'

CAFRARIA.

Letter from Mrs. E. Williams,

Mrs. J. Williams, Missionary to

from her Sister in London,

written at Kai River, Aug. 7, 1817.

SISTER—Your very welcome,

expected letter, dated March 30,

received Jan. 9, 1817, with great

packet of letters to us as if we

little fortune.

15th of June we left Bethelsdorp;

morning of our departure, we

meeting for prayer; affectionately

each other to the care of

the tongue cannot express the feel-

ings; but it was evident that

a bond of union which could not

broken. While on our way, many

expressed their surprise that we

go among such savages, thieves,

as the Caffres; and so far

from helping us, that we

even purchase necessities of

our journey. We left the colony

on the 9th of July; and I think that if ever I entered the presence of Christ with my whole heart, it was then: and, not only that we might safely cross the Great Fish River, but that he would go with us and bring us in safety to the destined spot.

The first night that we spanned out, we were not a little alarmed by the roaring of a lion and a wolf very near our waggon. This was the only time that I have heard the former, but the latter we hear almost every night. While I was writing these words I have heard him. I have seen the tracks of the elephants frequently, yet have not seen one of these animals; but I have seen the work which they had just done, for they tear up great trees by the roots, and turn them upside down.

We travelled in Caffre land three days before we saw a single creature, and then we met four Caffres who were hunting; till then we travelled at an uncertainty, as we had no guide. These men promised to conduct to our journey's end; but rain came on, and they deserted us. The next day, for the trial of our faith and patience, one of our waggons broke down; and, being unable to repair it, we were under the necessity of leaving it, with part of our people and our few sheep. We were nine in number, with my little boy, who proceeded. We took with us a part of a sheep, which is all the meat we had. But in the evening Mr. W. shot a hart-beast. The flesh of this animal resembles young beef. This supported us all until the arrival of our sheep. Thus our heavenly Father supplied our temporal need. This appeared to me as clearly to be a gift from his compassionate hand, as if he had sent one of his ministering spirits and presented it to us.

Sometimes the only water we could procure was like soap-suds; but I can assure you, that this has gone down as sweetly as the best water in London.

July 13. This morning we journeyed again through a desert to us unknown. In the evening we were obliged to cross a ditch, where there was a most beautiful fountain (spring) which we called Gika's fountain. Here our oxen wanted to drink, and here we were set fast; the wagon lay on one side, and we were obliged to remain here two nights in consequence of the following day being the Lord's. This place appeared to me very dangerous on account of the elephants. In the first night Mr. W. got up, and looking out of the wagon, thought he saw an elephant about 40 yards from us. You will judge how great our alarm must have been; my chief concern was what would become of my child. Mr. W. rose, made a fire, and burned the grass, to keep it off; but whether there was an elephant or not, he who promises to be as a wall of fire round about those who fear him, preserved us.

On the 15th Mr. W. and the people removed the great stones which stop it; after which our oxen went forward without difficulty, and a little before sunset we arrived at the appointed spot—the Kai River. As soon as we arrived, we bowed our knees, and I trust our hearts also, to thank our God for his kindness in bringing us hither. We were accompanied by a few Caffres, who met with us the last day on the road, whose chief object was to get food and tobacco. After evening service to-day the Caffres went in every direction to pray. The valley echoed by their voices. This appeared very singular to me.—What induced them, I know not.

21st Sabbath. We had a prayer-meeting soon after sunrise; I think God was with us of a truth. It was such a meeting as I had not known for a long time; nor did I expect to witness such an one in Caffre land, especially so soon. Mr. W. and myself were so overcome that we could not proceed with the service. We seldom have divine service without one or another crying out under the word.

The first thing Mr. W. did was to build a house with rushes. It was begun July 24, and on the 2d of August we first slept in it. I cannot help observing here, that it was with much pleasure and thankfulness we reflected on God's goodness towards us. We had now got a roof over our heads, and we observed that if our old friends in M— street could see us, it would do their hearts good. The house is 16 feet long, 14 wide, and 13 high. The front is brick; and we have a fire place, but I make little use of it, as the climate is so warm, that I am obliged to have my fire out of doors. We are here as much at home, and as happy as if we were in London, and had the best house in E. Place. This is of God, and glory be to his name!

The second thing Mr. W. did was to root up the thorns, and make a fence, that he might sow corn, but for want of rain it is yet unsown. The third operation was to make a garden; but in consequence of excessive heat and drought, all was burnt up, except a few beans and some Indian corn: these have been a great treasure to us, as we have little appetite for meat. Our live stock is, 4 cows, 4 calves, 30 breeding sheep, 3 hens, 5 chickens. The 4 cows give about as much milk as one English cow. I have a little churn, and make as much butter as we need.

You will probably have heard of the accident Mr. W. met with; but lest you should not I will state the particulars. On

the 13th of December, he began a dam in the river; in the evening he had the misfortune to cut off about an inch of the forefinger of his left hand, between two stones, except a small piece of the flesh, which he was obliged to cut off himself, as none of the people would do it for him. He was about a mile from the house when this happened, but he was enabled to walk home, and appeared cheerful. I perceived that he had hurt his finger, but had not the slightest idea that he had been so much injured. A few days after one of the natives brought the end of the finger and laid it on a chest, before my eyes—I leave you to judge of my feelings. In a few days after Mr. W. wrote to Captain Andrews, who has some medical knowledge, to ask his advice. He told him it must come off, or mortification would ensue. We soon set off, and arrived at his post on the 28th. On the 30th, he went through the painful operation, which was performed by Dr. Mahary. For about five days the pain was extreme; but thanks be to God who giveth strength according to our day. We left the Colony on the 11th of January, and arrived here on the 13th, finding all safe, to our great comfort. This far exceeded our expectation; but He who has the hearts and hands of all wicked men under his control, preserved us and our property in the midst of thieves and murderers, who are under no restraint but that which is from above. Great praise belongeth unto God.

My dear partner's finger is now quite healed, and he has recommended the dam. It is a great work; and I think it will not be completed under twelve months. Mr. W. has worked like a slave.

I feel persuaded, that you have the cause of God at heart; and to encourage you in your prayers, I shall briefly state the pleasing prospect we have at this place among the poor Caffres, with regard to number, attention, and perseverance.

The number residing here, including men, women and children, is 138. The general attendance on the Sabbath above 100, and on the week days 70. As to their attention, it is surprising. Mr. W. commenced teaching the alphabet to both children and adults on the 21st of July, the number then present being between 50 and 60. Since that time about 150 have learnt the alphabet; 12 can spell words of two syllables decently; and nearly all have learnt a most excellent little Dutch hymn. During divine service not a word is heard, nor a smile seen. As to their perseverance, they are not yet weary; but on the contrary are always ready whenever called upon to assemble. This makes it pleasant to be among them. We have great hope of one or two, that they are the subjects of divine grace, but time will prove the truth of this. There are many others who cry out under the word, but whether this proceeds from natural or divine influence, I cannot say. If it be of God it will continue. O! pray for us that God may give us a discerning spirit.

Among others there are two brothers of Jan Tzatsoo (the converted Caffre, sons of the chief, who accompanied them from Bethelsdorp). They came here on a visit, and staid about a month. They threw their beads, rings and paint into the river, and confessed their sins; then returned home, and declared what they had seen and heard, and began to intreat all to pray and seek the Lord. They have paid us a second visit, and appeared to be very humble, and to pray constantly.

The female natives are in general clever. I have two gowns made by the Caffre girls. Two of them have learnt to sew very neatly. I have also a cottage-bonnet, made from rush-peel, and very neat it is, considering that it is the first. My little boy walked before he was twelve months old, and he begins to speak the Caffre language. He is a great charge to me, as I have no one I can entrust him with. He has many admirers; he is no sooner out of the house than he has a great train of women and children after him. If he goes out clean, he always comes back as black as a sweep.

On the 22d of March, I was at home alone; I heard an unusual noise advancing towards the house, and upon looking out, I was immediately surrounded by 15 or 20 Caffres on horseback, all armed with their weapons of war; others were following on foot in the same manner. They had an alarming appearance. They dismounted: and I expected every moment to be seized. But the Lord was then to me a strong hold; he appeared to be my all. I was strongly impressed with the necessity of appearing composed. Our people were all with Mr. W. at work at the dam. I could not get a single creature to come and speak for me. This alarmed me the more. They learned, however, from some person where Mr. W. was; they then mounted their horses, and rode off violently towards the place. I took up my little boy in my arms, and went after them with trembling heart and limbs, fearing that my dear husband would be murdered before I got there. But when I arrived, I beheld him in the river, up to his knees, at work. I then learned, that these were Gika's Caffres, who had been hunting, and were returning home. This afforded great relief to my terrified mind.

We have been here nearly 10 months, and had nothing stolen till lately, when a man stole a few articles, but being alarmed, he ran away, leaving some of them behind

him. This brought to my mind the deprecations made upon our poor brethren and sisters at Otaheite, at the commencement of their mission.

Be constant in your prayers for us, for we know not what the end may be. Mr. Williams unites in Christian love to you and yours. May every blessing attend you through life—may you be happy even in death—and may we meet before the throne, having washed our robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb! E. W.

## MISSIONS IN RUSSIA.

The Annual Report of the Edinburgh Missionary Society, for 1817, has been published, with an Appendix, containing a geographical and historical account of the Society's missionary stations in Asiatic Russia, &c.; illustrated by a map.

The Report commences with an account of KANASS, where Mr. Paterson and Mr. Galloway remained for some time together to superintend the affairs of the settlement; arranging matters for the separation of the German colonists from their secular connexion with the Mission; attending to the education of their own children, and of the ransomed and other youth in the colony; and visiting the adjacent villages, to converse with the natives on the subject of religion. Several of the native children have made some progress in religious knowledge.

Three or four hundred Tartar families have come to settle in the vicinity, and are thus brought within the sound of the gospel.

Mr. Galloway visited in the month of Oct. a pastoral tribe of Tartars, called TURKOMANS, and he was greatly delighted with the readiness they showed to receive copies of the New-Testament and Tracts, and to learn the way of salvation.

The Missionaries at Astracan, about the same time, delivered to the Bible Committee of that city, 50 copies of the New-Testament, 50 of Luke's Gospel, and 50 of the Psalms, in Tartar, to be sent to others of these people in the neighborhood of Astracan, some of whom had remitted money to that society for the purpose of procuring books.

ASTRACAN.—The labors of Mr. Mitchell, and his coadjutor James Peddie, at the missionary press, and of Mr. Dickson, in correcting and translating, merit the highest commendation. They have distributed in the course of one year 3000 of Luke's Gospel, of the Karass translation, and many thousands of Arabic and Tartar Tracts. They have also circulated gratis, sent to Karass, Orenburgh, to the government of Cherson, to Theodosia, and Sympheropol, in the Crimea, or given to the Bible Committee in Astracan, no fewer than 2566 copies of the New Testament, in whole or in part, or parts out of the Old Testament, with 6548 Catechisms or Tracts; in all 9114 copies. Thus a door is set open for the circulation of the Scriptures throughout the widely extended region of which Astracan is the centre.

The Directors express great satisfaction in Mr. Glen, a respectable minister of Scotland, who has devoted himself to this mission.

ORENBURGH.—Among those ignorant and degraded lovers, the Kirghisians, Mr. Macalpine, with his zealous attendant, Walter Buchanan, (the converted Cabardian) have unremittingly continued their labors; and the progress which several of them, notwithstanding all their disadvantages, have made, is gratifying. For the permanent instruction of the Tartars in this country, a translation of the New Testament is in preparation, with Tracts, &c. Slavonic and other Testaments have been sent as far as Troitska.

### THE CRIMEA.

Mr. Paterson, leaving Karass, May 10, with Andrew Skirvine Hay, and carrying along with them 300 copies of the Tartar New Testament, and a great number of Tracts, proceeded through the Steppe, visited Rostof and Mariupol on the Sea of Asoph, entered the Crimea at Perecop, traversed it in various directions, and returned homeward by the Kuban, reaching Karass in safety July 18: though Mr. P.'s health was considerably injured by the fatigue of travelling and the state of the weather. His spirits, however, were continually revived, and his thanksgivings to God called forth, by the reception he met with.

Wherever he halted, he was almost instantly surrounded by multitudes of various orders and religions, pressing with eagerness to receive copies of the New Testament and Tracts. Sometimes, from the top of the cart in which he rode, in the market places of the towns, or in the midst of the open plains, he would stand for hours together talking to the wondering and listening people, on the great truths contained in that sacred volume which he was about to put into their hands. At other times, he would sit in the midst of a group at the foot of a tree, and read to them passages from these lively oracles of truth explain their meaning as he went along, address them with earnest exhortations to believe what they heard, comply to the questions and objections which they brought forward in consequence of his statements.

The interest excited by his conversation was almost universal, and by no means confined to the professors of any one religion in particular. Mollas, and Effendis, and

Imans, in every district, welcomed the precious gift; several natives of Turkey carried it with them to the places of their residence; and not only Greeks, but Jews, and Mohammedans, and Pagans, seem prepared to receive the Gospel.

'Here truly,' says Mr. P. 'is a field for Bible and Missionary Societies; the first, in putting the Holy Scriptures into the hands of the people; and the last, for explaining them and preaching the Gospel of Christ in simplicity and truth. These ought always to go hand in hand. In Christian countries, where the Gospel is purely preached, and many of the people can read, this is not so necessary; but in countries where the majority of the inhabitants cannot read, and are bigoted and superstitious to an amazing degree, the labor of missionaries is of the greatest consequence. Nay, it is indispensable; and when I at any time hear a call for Bibles among such a people, I consider it likewise a call for living interpreters to accompany them.'

The Tartar New Testament, accordingly, is already circulated among them, and is not only generally but well understood by all who speak that language. Means also will no doubt be employed, for giving them the whole Scriptures in such a form as is likely to be most universally intelligible to those who do not read the Turkish character. And should not this preparation be followed up by the oral instructions of Missionaries, who shall not cease to declare to the whole counsel of God, till, through his grace, one and another, and multitudes, being led to inquire for themselves what they must do to be saved, shall be brought from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the sons of God.

The call which was made at the last Anniversary, and the appeals which were then addressed to the Christians of Scotland, have not been in vain. The confidence which the Directors then expressed, of the support they would receive when the operations and necessities of the Society were sufficiently known, have not been disappointed. Missionary candidates and funds have been obtained, if not to the full extent of what is requisite, (for this must be the work of time, and could not reasonably be expected at once), yet certainly to a degree peculiarly encouraging, and in a manner that is justly calculated to inspire them with equal confidence, that in the future their wants shall, under the direction of infinite wisdom and beneficence, continue to be no less readily, and still more abundantly, supplied.

### COMMERCIAL MISSION TO CORMASIE.

A great city in the interior of Africa.

By recent advices from Africa, it appears that the mission which had some months ago been dispatched from Cape Castle to Cormasie, the capital of the kingdom of Ashantee, had completely succeeded; and that it had met with the most gracious reception from the king. At first the king manifested great coldness and reserve, which is attributed to the endeavors of General Daendels to excite a feeling hostile to the English; but mutual explanations having removed this unfavorable impression from his majesty's mind, every opportunity, it is alleged, was sought of complimenting the gentlemen composing the mission, with the highest proofs of regard and distinction. The splendor, the order, the variety and extent of the king's retinue; his subject chieftains, officers, and attendants, had as much exceeded the expectations of the English, as did the decorum and benignity of his manners, and those of his family and courtiers who surrounded him. The Population of Cormasie is estimated at 200,000 souls.

### ACADEMICAL HONORS.

THE SENATUS ACADEMICUS of the University of Glasgow has conferred upon the Rev. Robert Morrison, of Canton, the degree of Doctor in Divinity, in consequence of his literary merit, in the translation of the Sacred Scriptures into the Chinese language, and his other arduous engagements in philology. The grant of this diploma, we are informed, was made unanimously and gratuitously. We have been informed, that a learned Professor in the University of Glasgow, writing to one of the Directors of the Missionary Society in London, expressed himself to the following effect:—'Never was the degree of D. D. conferred upon any person with more pleasure and satisfaction than on Dr. Morrison; and I hope it will encourage him in his great and arduous labors.'

As a tribute of gratitude for the services rendered by the Rev. Ebenezer Henderson, to Denmark, Halstein, and Iceland, in promoting the circulation of the Scriptures, and establishing Bible Societies and Associations, the University of KIEL have gratuitously conferred upon him the degree of Doctor in Philosophy.

On the establishment of a University at Aso, in Finland, which took place on the recent Commemoration of the Reformation, the Rev. John Paterson was, upon the special recommendation of the Emperor of Russia, appointed a Doctor in Divinity, in consideration of his valuable exertions in Russia and Finland, in the service of the Bible Society.











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